

# HISTORY & ORIENTATION TO GOD'S HOUSE OF PRAYER

J.S. BOEGL • HOUSE OF PRAYER SERIES

## I. HISTORY & ORIENTATION TO HOUSE OF PRAYER

- A. In 1982 in Cairo, Egypt, Mike Bickle heard the Lord say that He was going to "*shift the understanding and expression of Christianity, in one generation.*"
- B. Over the last 20 (plus) years God is shifting the perspective, values and priorities of His Church, world-wide. This adjustment is nothing less than a sovereign move of God. He is prioritizing the pursuit of His presence in the company of His daughters and sons. Many of these groups describe themselves as a "**House of Prayer**".
- C. People who study missions have noted that in 1985 there were less than 30 ministries on the earth, who classified themselves as a House of Prayer. In less than 20 years, the Lord has raised up thousands of Houses of Prayer, in hundreds of nations.
- D. In 2014 the Lausanne Commission on World Evangelization designated that one sign of a *sufficiently gospel-infiltrated people-group* is the existence of a *House of Prayer* in their region.
- E. Through worshipful, night & day prayer, Houses of Prayer are preparing believers to engage Jesus' presence:
1. House of Prayer dynamics prepare us for the unique pressures of *Jesus' second coming*.
  2. They also prepare us to more fully engage His *Psalms 132 arrival*; often referred to as *revival*.
- F. When we engage in the House of Prayer dynamics, we are heeding the Lord's admonition in 1Peter 4:7. "**But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers**".
1. Peter's exhortation is for the whole Christian Church. It isn't something that needs to be manifest through a House of Prayer. Though "key", the House of Prayer is merely "a" vehicle.
  2. It's supremely *wise* for the end-time Church to adopt a watchful and prayerful posture.
  3. The fact that it's *vital* (meaning it will sustain life in an hour of threat) makes it wise.
- G. God isn't tinkering with our churches in order to give us a new, evangelical novelty. He's re-ordering our priorities because the strength received through these dynamics are an end-times necessity!
- H. Consequently, as followers of Jesus, it's imperative that we "inquire in His temple" (Psalm 27:4) and ask Him to give us understanding about this shift, so that we
1. appreciate the critical value of the issues that burn in Jesus' heart for His people
  2. develop a practical strategies to help us cultivate, encourage and protect new norms & priorities that need to be in place within our fellowships.
- I. If we fail to do this, vital Kingdom values will not take root in our lives and culture. In spite of our best intentions,
1. these fragile new priorities will cave under pressure from many in our community who want to establish relationship with us on the basis of other dynamics,
  2. or our own old, familiar "church" paradigms will crowd out the priorities God wants to establish in our lives and communities.
- J. Cultivating a corporate life of worshipful prayer & Word-centered dialogue with the Holy Spirit is wise for individuals *and* for the Body of Christ in a region, for many Kingdom reasons. The following list describes a different aspects of how a House of Prayer functions:
1. **THE HOUSE OF PRAYER IS A HOUSE OF HIS PRESENCE**
  2. **THE HOUSE OF PRAYER IS A HOUSE OF INTIMACY**
  3. **THE HOUSE OF PRAYER IS A HOUSE OF FAITH**
  4. **THE HOUSE OF PRAYER IS A HOUSE OF JOY**
  5. **THE HOUSE OF PRAYER IS A HOUSE OF DIALOGUE**
  6. **THE HOUSE OF PRAYER IS A HOUSE OF INQUIRY**
  7. **THE HOUSE OF PRAYER IS A HOUSE OF POWER**
  8. **THE HOUSE OF PRAYER IS A HOUSE OF INTERCESSION & ADMINISTRATION**
  9. **THE HOUSE OF PRAYER IS A HOUSE OF FAMILY/UNITY**
  10. **THE HOUSE OF PRAYER IS A HOUSE OF VIBRANT RIGHTEOUSNESS**
  11. **THE HOUSE OF PRAYER IS A HOUSE OF CROSS-BEARING**
  12. **THE HOUSE OF PRAYER IS A HOUSE OF THE PROPHETIC**

- 13. THE HOUSE OF PRAYER IS A HOUSE OF EVANGELISM**
- 14. THE HOUSE OF PRAYER IS A HOUSE OF HEALING**
- 15. THE HOUSE OF PRAYER IS A HOUSE OF DELIVERANCE**
- 16. THE HOUSE OF PRAYER IS A HOUSE FOR ISRAEL**
- 17. THE HOUSE OF PRAYER IS A HOUSE OF PREPARATION**
- 18. THE HOUSE OF PRAYER IS THE HOUSE OF THE BRIDEGROOM'S EXALTATION**